

KOHLER ET AL-PCT  
10/019,619

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 Canceled

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) The ring filter according to claim 20, wherein, said closure material is a polyurethane foam.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) The ring filter according to claim 20, wherein said plate-shaped insert is interlocked with said tubular frame.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) The ring filter according to claim 20, wherein

- said plate-shaped insert is a circular disk having an outer diameter that is smaller than an inner diameter of said filtering material,

- and wherein a radial outside region of said plate-shaped insert extends axially into a region of said filtering material,

and wherein said plate shaped insert is connected with said tubular frame and extends axially a uniform distance relative to said tubular frame.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) The ring filter according to claim 20, wherein, said plate-shaped insert has a ring collar projecting in a radially outward direction towards said tubular frame.

Claim 16. (Previously Presented) The ring filter according to claim 20, wherein, said plate-shaped insert has a plurality of radially projecting fingers extending radially outside for an axial stop on said filtering material.

Claim 17. (Previously Presented) The ring filter according to claim 20, further comprising a plurality of fingers projecting radially out from said plate shaped insert and located in a lower floor region and which have an extremely small axial dimension

relative to said height of said radial outer surface of said plate-shaped insert.

Claim 18. (Previously Presented) The ring filter according to claim 15, further comprising a plurality of axial supports disposed on said ring collar projecting in a radially outward direction relative to said tubular frame for providing an axial stop on said tubular frame.

Claim 19. (Previously Presented) The ring filter according to claim 20, wherein said plate-shaped insert has a plurality of radially elastic flexible tongues projecting axially out from said plate shaped insert in a direction of said tubular frame wherein said plurality of radially elastic flexible tongues include as barbs on their free end for axial fixing on said tubular frame to form an interlocking connection with said tubular frame.

Claim 20. (Previously Presented) A ring filter having two ends comprising:

- a) a star-shaped folded filtering material;
- b) a radially permeable tubular frame having two ends, and which extends approximately over an entire axial length of said ring filter adjoining said filtering material radially on an inside surface of said filtering material;
- c) a closure coupled to one end of said radially permeable tubular frame, said closure comprising:
  - i) a plate shaped insert coupled to said radially permeable tubular frame; and
  - ii) a molded closure section coupled to said plate shaped insert, extending radially outside said plate shaped insert and formed from a foamed plastic wherein said plate shaped insert is made from a different material; and
- d) a ring shoulder formed on said tubular frame opposite said closure, wherein said ring shoulder joins a closed end of said filtering material of said ring filter.

Claim 21. (Previously Presented) A cylindrical filter having two ends comprising:

- a) a filter material;
- b) a radially permeable tubular frame having two ends and which extends approximately over an entire axial length of said cylindrical filter radially inside, and adjacent to said filter material;
- c) a closure coupled to one end of said radially permeable tubular frame, said closure comprising:
  - i) a plate shaped insert coupled to said radially permeable tubular frame; and
  - ii) a molded closure section coupled to said plate shaped insert, extending radially outside said plate shaped insert covering an open end of said filter and formed from a foamed plastic; and

d) a ring shoulder formed on said tubular frame opposite said closure, wherein said ring shoulder joins a closed end of said filtering material of said ring filter.